

REMARKS

By this amendment Claim 41 has been amended, Claims 35-46 and 53 are pending.

The Examiner is thanked for the indication that Claims 35-40 and 53 are allowed. As will be appreciated from the discussion that follows, Claim 41, and the claims that depend therefrom, are also allowable.

Entry of this Amendment is proper under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 since the Amendment: a) places the application in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed herein; b) does not raise any new issues requiring further search and/or consideration since the Amendment amplifies issues previously discussed throughout prosecution; c) does not present any additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims; and d) places the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. Entry of the Amendment is thus respectfully requested.

Independent Claim 41 has been amended to recite transforming the given query, in accordance with a nomenclature which is based on and was created subsequent to an analysis of the records, into an encoded query having numerically encoded predicates, and processing the encoded query in connection with at least one second data table, the second data table having numerical data encoded so as to maintain an ordinal relationship among the words in the plain-text data, wherein the numerical data is encoded in accordance with the nomenclature.

Claim 41 therefore satisfies the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

With all rejections having been overcome, Applicants respectfully submit the application is in condition for allowance. An early Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that any further action is necessary to place this application in better form for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to deposit account number 50-1165 (T2147-906626) any fees under 37 CFR § 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of time

is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been separately requested, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 2, 2005

By: _____

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